

Playing
Time
64:34

BEETHOVEN

Complete Violin Sonatas • 1 Joseph Fuchs (1899-1997)

8.111251

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Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827):

Violin Sonata No. 1 in D major, Op. 12, No. 1 17:35

- 1 I. Allegro con brio 5:53
- 2 II. Theme and Variations: Andante con moto 7:02
- 3 III. Rondo: Allegro 4:38

First issued on DECCA DL-9640 & DECCA Box Set DL-150

Violin Sonata No. 2 in A major, Op. 12, No. 2 16:41

- 4 I. Allegro vivace 6:16
- 5 II. Andante, più tosto allegretto 5:45
- 6 III. Allegro piacevole 4:40

First issued on DECCA DL-9641 & DECCA Box Set DL-150

Violin Sonata No. 3 in E flat major, Op. 12, No. 3 15:02

- 7 I. Allegro con spirito 5:43
- 8 II. Adagio con molt' espressione 5:25
- 9 III. Rondo: Allegro molto 3:55

First issued on DECCA DL-9643 & DECCA Box Set DL-150

Violin Sonata No. 4 in A minor, Op. 23 15:16

- 10 I. Presto 4:43
- 11 II. Andante scherzoso, più allegretto 5:29
- 12 III. Allegro molto 5:04

First issued on DECCA DL-9644 & DECCA Box Set DL-150

All works with Artur Balsam, Piano

Recorded on 25th April, 6th, 9th, 13th, 20th, 23rd and 29th May, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 9th, 12th and 13th June, 1952, at Pythian Temple, New York, USA.

Described by Nathan Milstein as 'the greatest American-trained violinist', Joseph Fuchs had an immensely long career, continuing to give recitals at Carnegie Hall until he was 93. He was a soloist with every major American orchestra and made many important recordings, including the concertos by Hindemith and Vaughan Williams, as well as Mozart's *G major* and *Sinfonia concertante*. For many years Fuchs had a duo with the pianist Artur Balsam with whom he made several recordings, including the Beethoven *Violin Sonatas* of which this disc forms the first of three volumes. Apart from being the first complete cycle on the new vinyl medium, this one set a high standard in quality of both recording and performance. In his review of the original LP release in the December 21, 1952 *New York Times* Harold C Schonberg wrote: "Fuchs and Balsam make a magnificent team... Both instrumentalists scorn effects of a superficial nature and probe directly to the music's bone. These are strong, powerful, thoughtful performances that have the added virtue of being technically impeccable".

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Cover image: Joseph Fuchs (Private Collection)

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